

[7 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) Security forces dealing with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir have been given explicit directions to honour human rights during discharge of duties. Every reported case of alleged human rights violation is investigated promptly and stringent punishment awarded to those found guilty.

**Housing schemes for soldiers**

† 913. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for construction of houses for soldiers is being implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the total amount estimated to be spent thereon;

(c) whether such houses are also likely to be built under any such scheme at Pithauragarh in Uttarakhand;

(d) if so, the number of houses to be built under this scheme and the total amount to be spent thereon;

(e) whether there is any proposal to allot such houses to ex-servicemen also; and

(f) if so, the total number of houses likely to be allotted to ex-servicemen, out of the houses to be built at Pithauragarh?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (f) The Married Accommodation Project envisages the construction of houses for defence services personnel in four phases at a total estimated cost of Rs. 17,358 Crores. Presently, Phase I of the project is in progress. 922 houses are likely to be built at Pithauragarh in Uttarakhand under Phase II of the project at an estimated cost of Rs. 84.37 Crores. There is no proposal to allot houses built under the Married Accommodation Project to ex-servicemen.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.